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Executive Registry

2 July 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director-Comptroller

Red:

I wonder whether we really want to go ahead with a sponsored book about CIA at this time. With the publication of the Pentagon papers and with other revelations of government secrets apparently in the offing, CIA is going to take on a different image, possibly a better one, and one that is documented in a way that we could never have arranged by ourselves. Journalists, scholars, and quacks are going to have a field day with this mass of material. The thought naturally occurs that we might try to get a friendly writer to do a friendly job, but why bother before we know what the total impact of these revelations and the accompanying comment is going to be?

Perhaps a year or so from now, after things have calmed down, a carefully written piece based on hard evidence could be put together to our advantage.

Gordon M. Stewart Inspector General

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